

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year)
21 November 2000 (21.11.00)

International application No.
PCT/US00/10387

Applicant's or agent's file reference
7482M/3J

International filing date (day/month/year)
14 April 2000 (14.04.00)

Priority date (day/month/year)
19 April 1999 (19.04.99)

Applicant

FOLEY, Peter, Robert et al

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
06 October 2000 (06.10.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was

☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

Kiwa Mpay

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

REC'D AUG 18 2000
PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY
Attn. REED, T David
5299 Spring Grove Avenue
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45217-1087
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Note: JB title Chg Kim - des

xc: Brian Bolam / Max Brooks / JH / file

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

No - CL PH AR

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **16/08/2000**

Applicant's or agent's file reference
7482M/3J

FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International application No.
PCT/US 00/ 10387

International filing date
(day/month/year) **14/04/2000**

Applicant

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the International Search Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no International Search Report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority



European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Emmanuel Cherqui

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the PCT Applicant's Guide, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article", "Rule", and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions respectively.

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the latter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international publication. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only.

What parts of the International application may be amended?

Under Article 19, only the claims may be amended.

During the international phase, the claims may also be amended (or further amended) under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The description and drawings may only be amended under Article 34 before the International Examining Authority.

Upon entry into the national phase, all parts of the international application may be amended under Article 28 or, where applicable, Article 41.

When?

Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

Where not to file the amendments?

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been/is filed, see below.

How?

Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is to be published.

What documents must/may accompany the amendments?

Letter (Section 205(b)):

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confused with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

The letter must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant. However, if the language of the international application is English, the letter must be in English; if the language of the international application is French, the letter must be in French.

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220 (continued)

The letter must indicate the differences between the claims as filed and the claims as amended. It must, in particular, indicate, in connection with each claim appearing in the international application (it being understood that identical indications concerning several claims may be grouped), whether

- (i) the claim is unchanged;
- (ii) the claim is cancelled;
- (iii) the claim is new;
- (iv) the claim replaces one or more claims as filed;
- (v) the claim is the result of the division of a claim as filed.

The following examples illustrate the manner in which amendments must be explained in the accompanying letter:

1. [Where originally there were 48 claims and after amendment of some claims there are 51]:
"Claims 1 to 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37 to 48 replaced by amended claims bearing the same numbers; claims 30, 33 and 36 unchanged; new claims 49 to 51 added."
2. [Where originally there were 15 claims and after amendment of all claims there are 11]:
"Claims 1 to 15 replaced by amended claims 1 to 11."
3. [Where originally there were 14 claims and the amendments consist in cancelling some claims and in adding new claims]:
"Claims 1 to 6 and 14 unchanged; claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added." or
"Claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added; all other claims unchanged."
4. [Where various kinds of amendments are made]:
"Claims 1-10 unchanged; claims 11 to 13, 18 and 19 cancelled; claims 14, 15 and 16 replaced by amended claim 14; claim 17 subdivided into amended claims 15, 16 and 17; new claims 20 and 21 added."

"Statement under article 19(1)" (Rule 46.4)

The amendments may be accompanied by a statement explaining the amendments and indicating any impact that such amendments might have on the description and the drawings (which cannot be amended under Article 19(1)).

The statement will be published with the international application and the amended claims.

It must be in the language in which the international application is to be published.

It must be brief, not exceeding 500 words if in English or if translated into English.

It should not be confused with and does not replace the letter indicating the differences between the claims as filed and as amended. It must be filed on a separate sheet and must be identified as such by a heading, preferably by using the words "Statement under Article 19(1)."

It may not contain any disparaging comments on the international search report or the relevance of citations contained in that report. Reference to citations, relevant to a given claim, contained in the international search report may be made only in connection with an amendment of that claim.

Consequence if a demand for international preliminary examination has already been filed

If, at the time of filing any amendments under Article 19, a demand for international preliminary examination has already been submitted, the applicant must preferably, at the same time of filing the amendments with the International Bureau, also file a copy of such amendments with the International Preliminary Examining Authority (see Rule 62.2(a), first sentence).

Consequence with regard to translation of the international application for entry into the national phase

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that, where upon entry into the national phase, a translation of the claims as amended under Article 19 may have to be furnished to the designated/elected Offices, instead of, or in addition to, the translation of the claims as filed.

For further details on the requirements of each designated/elected Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 7482M/3J	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 00/ 10387	International filing date (day/month/year) 14/04/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 19/04/1999
Applicant THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

LIQUID DISHWASHING DETERGENT COMPOSITION HAVING POLYMERIC PARTICLES

5. With regard to the **abstract**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. _____



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.



None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/10387

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C11D17/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C11D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2 144 712 A (UNILEVER NV) 16 February 1973 (1973-02-16) the whole document ---	1-5, 7, 8, 10
P, X	DE 299 03 535 U (HENKEL KGAA) 10 June 1999 (1999-06-10) page 2 page 9, last paragraph claims 1, 7; examples 1-5 ---	1-3, 5-8, 10
X	EP 0 653 485 A (UNILEVER) 17 May 1995 (1995-05-17) page 3, line 9 - page 5, line 22 page 8, paragraph 1 examples ---	1-3
A	---	4-9
	--- -/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 July 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/08/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bertran Nadal, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/10387

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 93 22417 A (UNILEVER)	1-3
A	11 November 1993 (1993-11-11) page 5, line 20 -page 6, line 11 examples	4-6

X	EP 0 510 761 A (UNILEVER)	1,2,6,7
A	28 October 1992 (1992-10-28) page 11, line 37 -page 12, line 25 claims 1,4,6,7; example III	3,5

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/10387

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2144712	A	16-02-1973	DE 2232131 A	18-01-1973
DE 29903535	U	10-06-1999	NONE	
EP 0653485	A	17-05-1995	US 5434069 A	18-07-1995
			US 5441660 A	15-08-1995
			BR 9404433 A	20-06-1995
			DE 69424506 D	21-06-2000
			ZA 9408975 A	13-05-1996
WO 9322417	A	11-11-1993	US 5281357 A	25-01-1994
			AU 4261393 A	29-11-1993
			DE 69303293 D	25-07-1996
			DE 69303293 T	21-11-1996
			EP 0672102 A	20-09-1995
			ES 2091001 T	16-10-1996
			JP 7506137 T	06-07-1995
			US 5281355 A	25-01-1994
			US 5385959 A	31-01-1995
			ZA 9303026 A	29-10-1994
EP 0510761	A	28-10-1992	US 5230822 A	27-07-1993
			AU 652438 B	25-08-1994
			AU 1510792 A	17-09-1992
			BR 9201531 A	01-12-1992
			CA 2066871 A,C	25-10-1992
			DE 69201589 D	13-04-1995
			DE 69201589 T	13-07-1995
			ES 2071418 T	16-06-1995
			JP 6313200 A	08-11-1994
			JP 8026360 B	13-03-1996
			US 5258132 A	02-11-1993
			ZA 9202982 A	25-10-1993

09/937354

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT


REC'D 13 JUL 2001

WIPO

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 7482/3J		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US00/10387	International filing date (day/month/year) 14/04/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 19/04/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C11D17/00			
Applicant THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY et al.			
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of sheets.</p>			
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 06/10/2000		Date of completion of this report 11.07.2001	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized officer Miller, B Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8540	

RECEIVED
FEB 8 8 2002
TC 1700

OPE/JCS

FEB 26 2002



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US00/10387

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-16 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-10 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/US00/10387

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	2,10
	No:	Claims	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-10
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-10
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

Re It m V

Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Novelty (Article 33(2) PCT)

- 1.1. The present application does not meet the criterion set forth in Article 33(2) PCT because the subject-matter of claims 1, 7 and 8 is not new in respect of the prior art as defined in the regulations (Rule 64(1)-(3) PCT).

The following documents disclose already a liquid detergent composition and the corresponding process providing said composition coming within the scope of said claims.

a) FR-A-21 44 712 (D1)

D1 depicts encapsulated fragile particles for aesthetic purpose (page 1, lines 15-16) in a liquid dishwashing suspension (page 2, line 18, page 4, line 12). The polymeric coating comprises e.g. polyvinyl alcohol (page 2, line 14) and remains undissolved in the detergent composition but dissolves when diluted (page 1, lines 18-24).

b) WO-A-93/22417 (D2)

In D2 liquid heavy duty detergent compositions are described comprising encapsulated enzymes. In particular the examples disclose liquid compositions comprising capsules containing composite polymer comprising hydrophilic polymer (e.g. polyvinyl alcohol, see claim 3) or polymers chemically and/or physically attached to hydrophobic core particles and enzyme entrapped within (see e.g. page 33, lines 10-15). The hydrophilic polymer is insoluble in the detergent composition, but is dissolved or dispersed upon dilution of said composition with water (claim 6).

The use of a composition or process (**improving aesthetics** of a liquid **dishwashing** detergent product) is not suitable to limit the scope of protection. A process is only limited by the process steps whereas the corresponding composition is only restricted by the components of the composition (see PCT-Guidelines III-4.8 and III-4.8a).

- 1.2. The following depending claims do not seem to disclose subject-matter suitable to render independent claims 1, 7 or 8 novel. The described features are already disclosed in documents D1 and D2.

present claim

3

4, 5

6

9

prior art, see e.g.

D2: claim 3; D1: page 2, line 14

D2: page 33, 10-15, lines 51-52

D2: page 25, line 29

D2: page 32, lines 6-8.

2. Inventive Step (Article 33(3) PCT)

Although several problems are addressed by the present application, none of them is solved by the subject-matter of independent claims 1, 7 or 8.

One goal mentioned in the description is the improvement of aesthetics of a liquid detergent composition. Although it is not clear what is exactly meant by the formulation of this problem, it seems that the particles should be coloured or whitened for improving aesthetics (as stated e.g. on page 1, lines 15-16). However, according to independent claims 1,7 or 8 colouring or whitening of particles is not essentially required. In any case, colouring and whitening of particles for aesthetic purposes is quite common in the field of detergents. Therefore, the subject-matter of claim 10 does not exhibit an inventive step, contrary to Article 33(3) PCT.

Another problem to be solved which is expressed in the description (see page 2, lines 2-3, lines 17-21) is to develop new compositions for enzyme particles that will protect the enzyme core material when the particle is added to a high pH liquid automatic dishwashing composition. Nevertheless, according to independent claims 1,7 or 8 enzymes are not essential components of the coated solid particles. Moreover the composition used in present claim 1 and described in present claims 7 and 8 is not defined as automatic dishwashing composition having a high pH.

Benefits due to a two layer coating of enzyme particles mentioned on page 2, lines 22-24 are also not relevant for the subject-matter defined in the present claims, since neither enzymes nor a two-layer coating are mentioned in any claim.

Furthermore the application seems to deal with the problem of undesirable filming of coating materials used in the prior art on glass, steel or plastics (page 2, lines 9-16). However, in claim 2, 7 and 8 this desired result is only repeated without giving any hint, how this desired result can be achieved.

Moreover, none of said problems is addressed by the examples illustrating the present "invention" on pages 15-16.

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

The vague statement "**incorporated herein by reference**" in the description, e.g. on page 5, 10, 13 and 14, implies that the subject-matter for which protection is sought may be different to that defined by the claims, thereby resulting in lack of clarity of the claims (Article 6 PCT) when used to interpret them (see the Guidelines, II-4.17).

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims and description or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description are made:

1. Several statements in the description are not in the required conformity with present claims 1, 7 and 8, thereby rendering the scope of protection of said claims unclear, contrary to Article 6 PCT:
 - page 2, lines 22-33: "a benefit of the **present invention** that producing an **enzym particle** with a **two layer coating**" (not claimed)
 - page 4, lines 11-13, page 6, lines 8-11: "in the **preferred** embodiment, the particles are coated with a polymeric coating which is insoluble in said liquid dishwashing detergent composition but soluble in automatic dishwashing solution"(essential not preferable according to claims 1,7,8).

2. Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 do not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT in that the matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined. The claims attempt to define the subject-matter in terms of the desired characteristic of the coating (insoluble in liquid dishwashing detergent composition but soluble in automatic dishwashing solution; leaving no significant residue). The technical features necessary for achieving this result (see page 4, line 28-page 5, line 17) are missing from said claims.

Moreover, it seems to be clear from the description on pages 4 and 5 that the following features are essential to achieve a particle coating required for the present invention ("The process by which the polymeric coating is prepared and deposited upon the particle is critical", see page 4, lines 28-29):

- (1) hydration of alkyl cellulose ether and/or polyvinyl alcohol by forming a polymer solution having a polymer concentration in a range of from about 1% to about 30% by weight, more preferably in a range of about 3% to about 10 %, and most preferably, about 5%.
- (2) The temperature of aqueous solution of the polymer is desirably maintained within a range of from 30°C to 40°C while spraying the polymer solution on the particle, and preferably in a range of from 32°C to 38°C, and most preferably at a temperature of about 35°C.

Since independent claims 1, 7 and 8 do not contain these features, they do not meet the requirement following from Article 6 PCT taken in combination with Rule 6.3(b) PCT that any independent claim must contain all the technical features essential to the definition of the invention.

3. The vague statement in the description on page 16, lines 12-15 ("the invention is not to be considered limited to what is described in the specification") implies that the subject-matter for which protection is sought may be different to that defined by the claims, thereby resulting in lack of clarity (Article 6 PCT) when used to interpret them (see also the PCT Guidelines, III-4.3a).
4. The general formula on page 14, lines 22-24 is unclear.